



961413994 (WE)  
#17C  
S. Zard  
2/3/04  
3/11/04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Serial No. .... 09/286,822  
Filing Date ..... 4/05/99  
Inventorship ..... Grate et al.  
Assignee ..... Microsoft Corporation  
Group Art Unit ..... 2142  
Examiner ..... D. Blair  
Attorney's Docket No. .... MS1-305US  
Title: E-Commerce System and Method for Automated Configuration of Trading Relationships

RECEIVED

JAN 30 2004

Technology Center 2100

To: Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

From: Emmanuel A. Rivera (Tel. 509-324-9256; Fax 509-323-8979)  
Customer No. 22801

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF NOVEMBER 13, 2003**

Sir:

In response to the Office action of November 13, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.

Do not enter DBB